

PURPOSE

To assure consistency across the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) hospitals regarding the reporting of patient deaths as required by Public Act 318 of 2020.

DEFINITIONS

Hospital

An inpatient program operated by MDHHS for the treatment of individuals with serious mental or serious emotional disturbance.

Office of Recipient Rights (ORR)

The office created by the Michigan Mental Health Code (MMHC) which is subordinate only to the director and which is responsible for investigating, resolving, and assuring remediation of apparent, suspected, or substantiated rights violations and assuring that mental health services are provided by the department in a manner which respects and promotes the rights of recipients as guaranteed by Chapter 7 and 7A of the MMHC, PA 258 of 1974 as amended.

POLICY

Upon the death of a patient, including deaths which occurred within 48 hours of discharge, hospitals must complete a MDHHS-5949, Notification of Patient Death, form and submit it to the Office of Recipient Rights (ORR) at MDHHS-RecipientRights@michigan.gov and the State Hospital Administration (SHA) at MDHHS-StateHospitalAdmin@michigan.gov with *Report of Death* in the email subject line. The MDHHS-5949 must be submitted within 72 hours of the hospital becoming aware of the death. The following documents must be attached to the email:

- A copy of the patient's admission history and physical.
- Copies of the patient's (medical/psychiatric) discharge and transfer summaries.
- Copies of any completed reviews of death of the patient.

CONTACT

For more information, contact ORR or SHA.

REFERENCES

[APF 170, Incident Reporting](#)

[MDHHS-5949, Notification of Patient Death](#)

[Public Act 318 of 2020](#)

[MCL 330.1720](#)

[MCL 330.1721](#)